

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A hard case for carrying small articles, such as eyeglasses, comprising a wrap-around structure composed of a plurality of panels arrayed in parallel and articulated together to be folded up by overlapping the panels, a pair of end plates articulated to opposite ends of one of the intermediate panels, said end plates being extendible vertically and being foldable down onto the said one panel, said hard case in one condition having the end plates extending vertically from the said one panel, and the plurality of panels wrapped around said end plates to define a hard case suitable for carrying a small article, and in another condition, having the end plates folded down onto the said one panel with the remaining panels wrapped around said one panel to a flat configuration suitable for carrying in a person's pocket or pocketbook.
2. A hard case according to claim 1 wherein the panels are made of cardboard covered with one of fabric, plastic and leather.
3. A hard case according to claim 1 wherein the panels are composed of thin sheets of one of metal and plastic.
4. A hard case according to claim 1 wherein the panels have cushioning.
5. A hard case according to claim 1 wherein a latch is provided for closing the hard case when in the said one condition.
6. A hard case according to claim 1 wherein latching is provided for closing the hard case in both conditions.
7. A hard case according to claim 1 wherein a magnetic strip is provided to maintain closure of the hard case in said one condition.
8. A hard case according to claim 1 wherein the panels are made of cardboard pieces spaced apart about twice the thickness of the cardboard.
9. A hard case according to claim 1 wherein the end plates are ends of a box structure that is secured to the said one panel
10. A hard case according to claim 9 wherein said box structure is secured additionally to an adjacent panel to said one panel.

11. A hard case according to claim 10 wherein said box structure folds out on one side and folds in on the opposite side when the end plates are folded down to said one panel.
12. A hard case according to claim 1 wherein at least one panel is configured with a slot to receive an adjacent panel therein in sliding relationship.
13. A hard case according to claim 1 wherein a panel adjacent to said one panel is divided in half by a hinge to enable the panel to fold back upon itself.
14. A hard case according to claim 1 wherein the end plates are flanged to contact the panels of the wrap-around.